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CONFIRMATION NO. APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 09/459,342 12/13/1999 SHIGETOSHI SAMESHIMA 566.36161CX1 1055 12/23/2005 24956 7590 **EXAMINER** MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C. COLBERT, ELLA 1800 DIAGONAL ROAD ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER **SUITE 370** ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314 3624

DATE MAILED: 12/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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| APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION | | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
|------------------------------|-------------|--|-------------|---------------------|
| 09/459,342 | 12/13/1999 | SHIGETOSHI SAI | MESHIMA | 566.3616FX1 |
| | | | EXAMINER | |
| | | | E. Colbert | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER |
| | | | 3674 121505 | |

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Commissioner for Patents

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Art Unit: 3624

Response to Applicant's Amendment

The amendment filed on 09/19/05 is not fully responsive to the prior Office action because of the following matter: the Applicants' new claims 39-48 are not properly identified in accordance with 37 CFR 1.21. Since these claims have not been examined on the merits claim 39 should be as follows: 39. (new-previously presented); claim 40. (new-currently amended); claim 41 (new-currently amended); claim 42 (new-previously presented); claim 43 (new-currently amended); claim 44 (new-currently amended); claim 45 (new-currently amended); claim 46 (new-currently amended); claim 47 (new-currently amended); and claim 48 (new-currently amended). The top right corner or the top left corner of the amendment pages should have the application number on each of the pages as an identifier in an effort to prevent the pages from being separated or lost during scanning into the electronic filing system.

Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, Applicant is given a time period of **ONE** (1) **MONTH or THIRTY** (30) **DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the correction in order to avoid abandonment. Extensions of this time period maybe granted under 37 CFR 1.136(a). *This action is NON-FINAL*.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ella Colbert whose telephone number is 571-272-6741. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday-Thursday, 6:30AM-4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vincent Millin can be reached on 571-272-6747. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Primary Examiner
December 15, 2005